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Special Section Inside

Church getting ready for revival

By William H. Perkins Jr.
Editor

The members of Iglesia Bautista Vida Abundante (Abundant Life Baptist Church) in Jackson believe the next great revival can break out in their hometown, and they're backing up that belief with the power of prayer.

"Every great revival has started with prayer," said pastor Gaston Romero, a native of Uruguay who has led the predominantly Hispanic congregation since March 2003. "We believe we can do this. We are getting prepared."

The church recently sponsored an evening Concert of Prayer at their location inside Briarwood Church on Briarwood Drive in Jackson, where they are currently renting meeting space. They are planning many more such worship services.

"We believe God will one day pour out His power on our church, and the churches in Mississippi, and around this country and the world, and revival will take place," Romero said.

Romero has been involved in Christian ministry since 1996, when he began working with Baptists in his home country. He said since he came to Mississippi to pastor Iglesia Bautista Vida Abundante, he has watched Mississippi Baptist Hispanic ministries grow from about five churches to more than 30 churches today.

"There is now visible fruit from that movement. The pillars of success have been prayer, evangelism, and teaching the Bible," he said.

"Iglesia Vida Abundante has spearheaded an intentional, yearly strategy of promoting a vision for evangelizing Metro Jackson and urban Mississippi," said David Alexander, church planting strategist in the Church Planting Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

"The vision embraces not only the Hispanics but all of the population segments that compose the urban population. They are seeking the partnership of the



PRAYING FOR CITY - Worshippers at Iglesia Bautista Vida Abundante (Abundant Life Baptist Church) praise God and pray for the city of Jackson to be the place where a great revival begins. The church, which is housed at Briarwood Church on Briarwood Drive in Jackson, is conducting periodic Concerts of Prayer to prepare for the revival. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

other urban Hispanic churches to engage in intentional evangelistic prayer for the city and Mississippi cities, seeking a spiritual awakening among the residents and clear evidence of where God is at work so that the churches may obediently join with the Lord in ministering in those areas," said Alexander, who was raised in Mexico as the son of missionary parents.

Iglesia Bautista Vida Abundante began in July 2002 as a Sunday School class at Colonial Heights Church, which was on Old Canton Road in Jackson but has since relocated to Ridgeland. As attendance grew, a fellowship was started, and in February 2003, the members of Colonial Heights Church voted to support a mission church to be built on the foundation of the fellowship. Romero was called as

pastor in March 2003, and the church was established in May of that year.

"Our dream is if we can set aside time for prayer, coming before the Lord and praying with all our hearts, God will bless us and send a great revival. We believe we can change the world," Romero said.

For more information on the Concerts of Prayer, Romero can be contacted at (601) 260-5177. E-mail: gastymar@hotmail.com. For more information on church planting in Mississippi, Alexander can be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3364 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 364. E-mail: dalexander@mbcb.org.

Church planting in Mississippi is supported by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program.

Miss. CP climbs in March

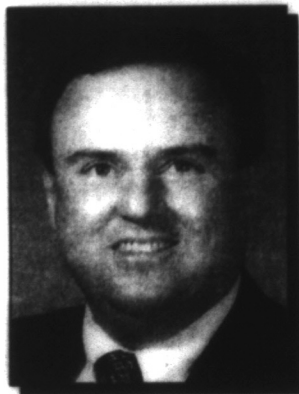
Gifts to the work of the Lord through the Mississippi Cooperative Program (CP) in March reflected a rise over the February total but dropped in comparison to the same month the previous year, according to Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson. The March total of \$2,846,440, was \$205,785, or 7.8%, higher than the \$2,640,655 given last month, and \$408,593, or 12.6%, below the total given in March 2006. Total Mississippi CP giving for the current fiscal year, which runs from January-December, stands at \$9,469,970, which is \$71,139, or .75%, less than last year's giving through March and \$1,172,737, or 14.1%, ahead of current budget needs. The 2007 Mississippi CP budget of \$33,188,934, was approved by messengers to the 2006 annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. A total of \$2,765,745, is needed each month to meet the convention board's budget for 2007. In addition to helping support more than 10,700 missionaries in the U.S. and around the world through affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention, Mississippi CP helps fund such programs as the State Speakers Tournament and Selection Tournament (Bible Drill) on April 21 at First Church, Clinton; and the Mississippi Baptist Chaplains' Spring Retreat on April 27-28 at Camp Garaywa in Clinton.

SBC CP down for March

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) - Giving to the Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program in March was \$14,991,093, \$4,745,701, or 24%, below giving in February of \$19,736,794 and 18.2%, or \$3,336,945, less than the \$18,328,038 received in March 2006, according to a news release from SBC Executive President and Chief Executive Officer Morris H. Chapman. As of March 31, the year-to-date total of \$102,076,645 for Cooperative Program (CP) missions is \$1,632,454, or 1.6% ahead of the \$100,444,191 received at the same point in 2006. The SBC operates on an Oct. 1-Sept. 30 fiscal year. Designated giving of \$117,390,555 for the same year-to-date period is 2.2%, or \$2,489,203, above gifts of \$114,901,353 received at this point last year. The \$23,923,724 in designated gifts received last month is \$11,243,314 below the \$35,167,038 received in March 2006, a decrease of 32%. For the SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, the year-to-date total of \$102,076,645 is 104.2% of the \$97,974,211 budgeted to support Southern Baptist ministries globally and across North America. The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' method of supporting missions and ministry efforts of state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention. The Cooperative Program total includes receipts from individuals, churches, state conventions and fellowships for distribution according to the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget for the current fiscal year.



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Who are the real bad guys?

The administrators at Burlington Township High School in New Jersey decided to hold a special emergency drill a few weeks ago to deal with the real-world possibility that gunmen could take over the school and hold hostages — or worse. Given the state of our society today and many actual events like the Columbine High School massacre in Colorado, holding such an exercise is probably a practical thing to do.

"You perform as you practice," Superintendent Chris Manno told the Burlington County Times newspaper when he announced the drill. "We need to practice under conditions as real as possible in order to evaluate our procedures and plans so that they're as effective as possible."

So far, so good.

The drill began with two Burlington Township police detectives playing the roles of gunmen. They burst into the school and "shot" students before holing up in a classroom with ten pretend student hostages.

What was the gunmen's scripted grievance against the school? The newspaper reported that they were cast as members of a

right-wing fundamentalist group known as the New Crusaders who don't believe in separation of church and state, and one of their daughters had been expelled from school for praying before class.

That's right — of all the deadly threats schools encounter daily and all the terrorist groups intent on inflicting mass casualties on the U.S., school officials in Burlington Township chose right-wing fundamentalist Christians and their obsession with school prayer to be the bad guys in this training scenario.

"BETWEEN S.A.R.S. AND
TERRORISM AND THE IRAQ
SITUATION, WE'VE DECIDED
TO TAKE NO CHANCES!"



Such is the sorry state of affairs in our country today, when Christians can be painted as "New Crusaders" intent on inflicting death and destruction over school prayer — and concocting such a slander against Christians can apparently be accomplished with impunity.

That's not to say that there aren't far-out groups who create mayhem while illegitimately claiming to do so on behalf of Jesus. That's not to say the 2000-year history of Christianity is without blemish. It is to say that Christians are plainly not the central threat to our way of life today.

It is also to say — obviously enough — that the ever-growing practice of political correctness in the country forbids using the names and beliefs of the groups that truly threaten our way of life. Thus do terrorists who slaughter women and children become courageous "freedom fighters," while Christians become evil "New Crusaders," and the terrorists are noble while Christians are diabolical.

There is a method to this semantical madness, and it's this: Christians must be discredited as a legitimate force for good if the armies of secularism are to be victorious. That's not a vague philosophical concept to be debated among learned men and women. That's not the paranoid ramblings of the "New Crusaders."

There may be no central clearinghouse for discrediting Christianity, and there may not be an organized nationwide effort to debase our belief system, but it certainly happens on an ad hoc basis and is then parroted by others.

Who else stands up for the worth of individuals, the sanctity of human life, the integrity of marriage between one man and one woman, and so many other issues crucial to the future of our civilization? What other group creates such anxiety among the secularists who want to have their way, who want to be able to live their lives with no moral compass and no spiritual anchor?

That's why school officials, Hollywood producers, politicians, and so many others try so hard to devalue Christianity. One particularly effective way to do that is to make us appear to be homicidal nuts in make-believe terrorist drills. To at least one school district in New Jersey, that's practicing "under conditions as real as possible."

Chilling, isn't it?

GUEST OPINION:



Rest in peace

By Jerry Mixon, director
Stewardship Department
Miss. Baptist Convention Board

Considered by many to be outdated in method, cumbersome in structure and overstaffed in ministry personnel, the Cooperative Program, 82, recently died after an extended illness. She was called affectionately "CP."

CP had a long tenure of service as a ministry and missions organization of church families known as the Southern Baptist Convention. Her mission was to receive and distribute funds for the work of her extended families. CP assured that all ministries of the extended family were funded to meet the needs of each organization. CP will be remembered as the glue holding her Baptist family of 16 million together for the purpose of ministry and missions for over eight decades.

The cause of death has not been determined, but it left many to speculate the autopsy may reveal her death was due to disagreements in the family, lack of education about her work, neglected promotion, and other competing ministries within and without the family. It should be noted all family organizations thrived under CP, and now all organizations will be affected by her death.

CP had been the financial base supporting families in each state and the international family. Each state family gave generously to CP, who allocated funds

supporting work in each state and throughout the world. CP carved out a legacy in the simple words, "We can do more together than we can separately."

This united approach gave birth to CP in 1925. CP's brother, the Executive Committee, also known as EC, resides in Nashville, Tennessee. EC has the assignment of distributing CP funds to the extended family. Without CP the annual national family reunion, or convention as some called it, will most likely cease to exist. This family reunion was not only a time of fellowship, information, education, preaching, worship, and reports from agencies, it was also at this time the family decided annually how CP funds would be allocated.

CP's death had a ripple effect throughout each local and state family, the North American Mission Board fami-

ly and the International Mission Board family. Together these families were supporting 10,400 career missionaries at home and abroad. CP's funds provided assistance to colleges, seminaries, disaster relief, world hunger, hospitals, children's homes, reaching unreached people groups, starting new family groups, and a host of other ministries.

CP was responsible for starting 53 churches every day worldwide in 2006. Through CP the family recorded one baptism every 38 seconds in that same time period. A spokesperson said, "We will survive because of investments, endowments, and special offerings from individuals and family members." This positive word was encouraging, but they were unable to project how long they could operate without CP.

CP is survived by two sis-

ters, Lottie Moon and Annie Armstrong. Many believe these two sisters will be able to maintain their work because of annual special offerings from state families. She is also survived by several cousins living in various states. This includes a first cousin, Margaret Lackey, residing in Mississippi. No one was able to give a timetable for continuation of these ministries.

An unnamed source close to CP said, "A national day of mourning for CP will be observed by the extended family in the near future. We are in the early stage of looking for CP's replacement. CP may have been a 1925 model, but she replaced the direct appeal model where individual organizations solicited funds from churches. I pray we can find a replacement and not have to return to the older method of financial support."

Several outspoken critics of CP were contacted by telephone, but none would comment on CP's death and would not speak on the record about a replacement.

In lieu of flowers, family members have been asked to send donations to any of the above named organizations.

(Take a moment to imagine if this had been a real obituary.)

Welch relishing new role in So. Baptist life

SAN ANTONIO (BP) — Bobby Welch is spending six weeks canvassing the Lone Star State prior to the SBC's June 12-13 annual meeting in San Antonio.

Welch, the former Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) president who began his role as Strategist for Global Evangelical Relations with the SBC Executive Committee on March 15, told Baptist Press, "In fulfilling part of this new assignment, I want to emphasize among Texas Baptists the going and giving nature of our great, cooperative Southern Baptist Convention and to encourage all Southern Baptists in Texas regarding their opportunity to help fulfill our Lord's Great Commission.

"Just as I did in my pastoral ministry and during my tenure as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, I also want to be certain that there is no banner ever lifted any higher than the banner of soul-winning discipleship,"



Welch

he said, "and while on this six-week trip, I intend to do that by encouraging all Southern Baptists in Texas to enroll and participate in Crossover San Antonio."

Crossover, now in its 19th year, is an evangelistic effort preceding each SBC annual meeting to share the Gospel with multiplied thousands of residents in the meeting's host city.

The North American Mission Board estimates that 2,000 Southern Baptist volunteers will be in San Antonio when NAMB is jointly sponsoring Crossover San Antonio with the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the San Antonio Baptist Association.

Crossover San Antonio officially is June 9-10. During the week and weekend prior to the SBC's annual meeting, volunteers from scores of Southern Baptist churches in San Antonio and around the nation will spread the Gospel in Texas' second-largest city.

Charles Price, director of missions for the San Antonio Baptist Association, said more than four out of five San Antonio residents do not attend church regularly, and two-thirds of the city's 1.8 million residents have no church affiliation.

"These statistics signal the dire urgency that exists for soul-winning discipleship in and around San Antonio," Welch said. "Truly, these are fields white unto harvest, and they invigorate me to be another voice that continues to raise the Gospel's call and to focus on winning the lost in Texas.

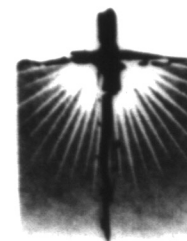
"In short, I want to assist our Southern Baptist family in the Lone Star State to shine for Jesus Christ by sharing Him,

the light of the world, with as many people as possible."

Welch — retired pastor of First Church in Daytona Beach, Fla., where he served 32 years — is the coauthor of the FAITH Sunday School-based evangelism strategy that uses the F.A.I.T.H.

acronym and Bible verses to show people how to become a Christian through repentance and forgiveness and committing one's life to Jesus Christ.

For additional information about Crossover San Antonio or to register as a Crossover volunteer, go to www.crossoversa.org.



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

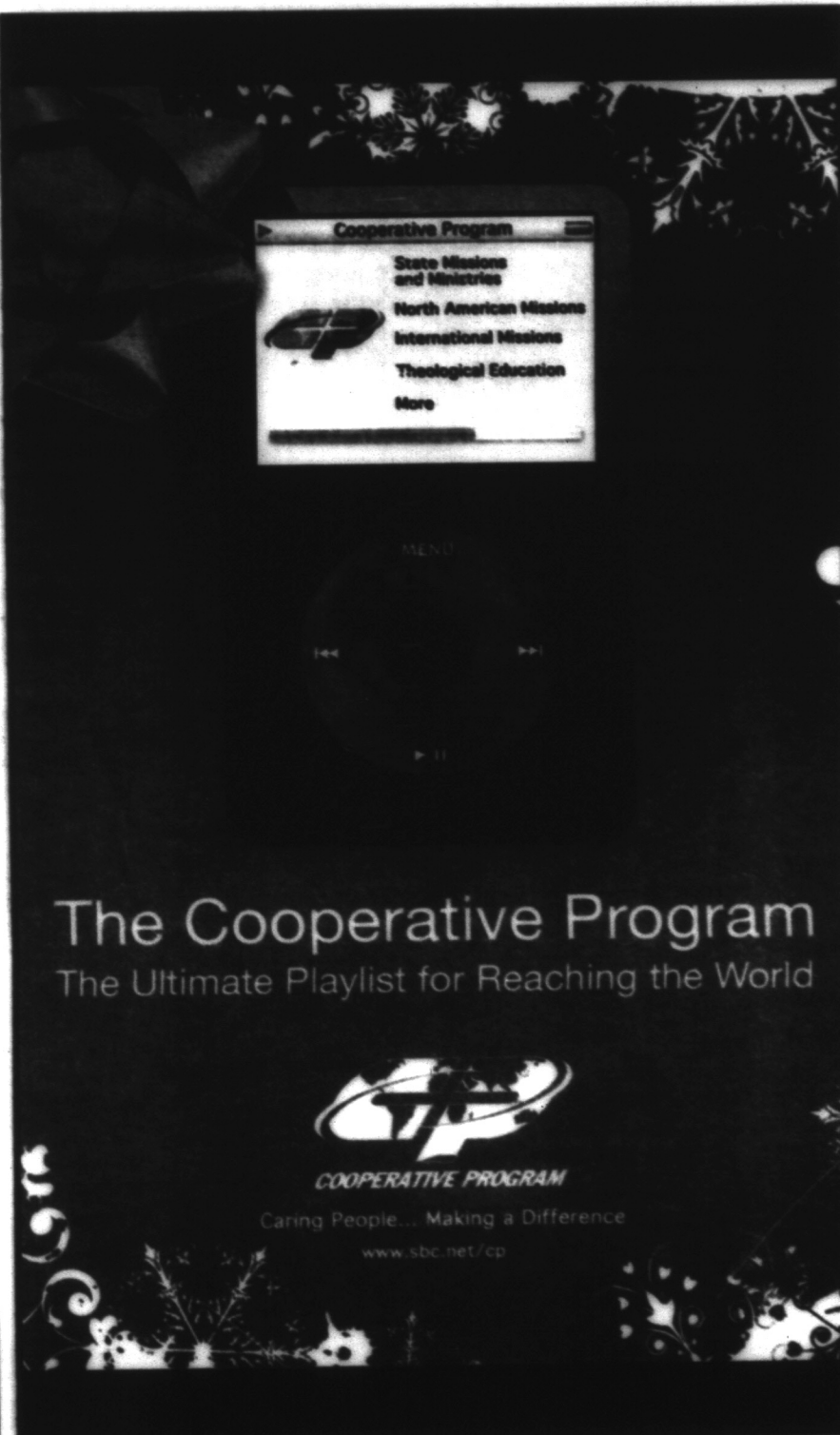
THE SECOND
FRONT PAGE

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No. 15



Looking back

10 years ago

Wolf Blitzer, correspondent for CNN, visits Mississippi College, speaking at the school's Arts in April series.

20 years ago

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board votes to drop its longstanding requirement that career missionary candidates attend one of the six SBC seminaries for at least one year. The new policy opens the door to qualified candidates from non-SBC seminaries.

60 years ago

More than 200 high school students and other visitors attend the first annual Senior Day at William Carey College Apr. 5. Attendees were given campus tours and a picnic lunch.

N.H. to legalize unions?

CONCORD, N.H. (BP) — The New Hampshire House easily passed a bill April 4 that would legalize civil unions and make the Granite State the sixth one nationwide to grant homosexual couples the legal benefits of marriage. The bill, H.B. 457, passed 243-129, and now goes to the Senate. Both chambers are controlled by Democrats. Democratic Gov. John Lynch has not said if he would support it, but, according to the Manchester Union Leader, expressed concern about how the bill would interact with other laws. Civil unions are legal in Vermont, Connecticut, and New Jersey. California has something similar but calls them domestic partnerships. Massachusetts remains the only state where homosexual marriage is legal. Meanwhile, the city of San Francisco joined a host of liberal activist groups April 2 in filing legal briefs asking the California Supreme Court to overturn the state's current laws and legalize homosexual marriage. The justices will hear oral arguments later this year or early next year in the case, which could have a significant impact on the rest of the country if marriage is redefined in the nation's most populous state. A California appeals court ruled against homosexual marriage last October. At issue is a California law passed by voters in 2000 that protects the natural, traditional definition of marriage. Known as Proposition 22, it passed with 61% of the vote. The state also has other laws on the books that define marriage as between a man and a woman.



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

DON'T GET DOWN JUST BECAUSE THE ATTENDANCE IS DOWN

Easter is over. At least, the Sunday celebration of the living Lord has passed and most churches have returned to normal ways and days. I have never heard of any church having a bad Easter Sunday. The crowd and the spirit are usually great. It is easy for everybody to be upbeat and excited about Easter but sadly, we do not stay that way.

Months ago, I was talking to one of our fine pastors and he was so excited because of something that had happened in his church on July 2. If you think back, you will remember that the Fourth of July was on Tuesday, and so July 2 was the Sunday before the fourth and it seemed to be a convenient time for a lot of folks to take off from church and head to wherever it was they were going for a long weekend.

That is the way it was with this pastor's congregation. He expected the crowd to be smaller and his expectations were met. As the service began, he noticed a sweet couple to whom he had recently witnessed was



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

there in church. It was a man and his wife, both of them right at 75 years of age and neither of them were Christians. The pastor told me that about halfway through his message it seemed like the Holy Spirit nudged him and directed him to be sure and present the plan of salvation in such a way as to draw the net to the sense of positive urgency of making a commitment to Christ. Being sensitive to what the Lord seemed to be bringing about in his heart and mind, he did that very thing. At the conclusion of the service the invitation was extended and the pastor prayerfully and faithfully called for the response to say yes to Jesus.

It had only been a few days before that the pastor had been in the couple's home. He had talked to them about accepting Christ.

The wife gave indication that she was ready, but she was waiting on her husband. The husband honestly and forthrightly said, "I am just not ready yet." On Sunday morning, July 2, during the hymn of opportunity he stepped out into the aisle but he went toward the back of the church, up the side aisle, and walked over like he was going to the backdoor of the church — only to get to the center aisle, turn, and head toward the pastor. The man was about to be standing on the solid Rock, but the pastor was already standing on shouting ground. He shared with him again how he could accept Christ and what that would mean. The man invited Jesus into his heart. Not far behind him coming down the aisle was his precious companion, his wife.

Both of them were standing there giving their lives to the Lord indicating that they wanted to follow Jesus in baptism.

The day I saw the preacher was a couple of weeks after that, and he was still walking in clouds of glory as he shared with me what had happened. I joined him in the joy that had spread all across heaven. He and I talked about how oftentimes when the attendance is down we get down, but on July 2 when the crowd was off the Lord was on. I often wonder if we don't miss some of God's choicest blessings because we are looking at the crowd instead of Christ. Surely He would want everyone to be there, but we must never forget that He wants those who are there to have a genuine experience of His love, power, and presence.

This Sunday, Easter plus one week, just know that even though some of the Resurrection crowd may not be present, Jesus will be. Remember that where Jesus is, that is a glorious place to be! Look to Him more than at the size of the crowd and serve on!

The author may be contacted at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. E-mail: jfutral@mbcb.org.

OBITUARY

Charles M. Case, Sr., 75, died of cancer Mar. 1 at his home in Mendenhall. Services were Mar. 4 at First Church, Mendenhall, with Rodney Anderson, Earl Surber, and Howard Brister officiating. Internment was at Hollywood Cemetery, McComb. Case was born in 1931 in McComb and graduated from McComb High School, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. He pastored several churches in Lincoln County during college and seminary, and he and his wife Betty were appointed missionaries by the Home Mission Board to serve Native Americans in Gallup and

Sheprock, New Mexico. He also served as president of the New Mexico Mission Board and fist vice-president of the New Mexico Convention. After returning to Mississippi in the early 70's, he pastored Macedonia Church for 15 years before retiring in 1995. He is survived by his wife Betty Prescott Case; daughters Mary C. Brown, Brookhaven, Theresa C. DeBold, Jefferson, Ga., and Debbie C. Dear, Monticello; son, Charles M. Case, Jr., Mendenhall; sister, Dorothy Case Blanton, Durant; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



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at the Inauguration of

Dr. Raymond Thomas King

as the Ninth President of the University

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MC sets Spring Fever Week

Spring Fever Week will kick off at Mississippi College (MC) in Clinton on April 16. The annual event will conclude April 21 with Derby Day, which consists of various competitions held between the social tribes on campus.

As a highlighted component of the week, on April 17 MC will host bluegrass band Nickel Creek, accompanied by special guest Tift Merritt. The concert will be held in the A.E. Wood Coliseum on the Clinton campus. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m., with the concert beginning at 7:00 p.m. Students and visitors are encouraged to attend.

For more information on Spring Fever Week or MC campus activities, call (601) 925-3830. E-mail: thomas12@mc.edu.



Mississippi College

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

REVIVALS & HOMECOMINGS

Bethlehem Church, Morton: Ole Time Bible preaching conference, Apr. 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Lunch provided. Preachers will be called on to preach from the floor; Revival, Apr. 22-25; Sun., 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Tim Horton, speaker; Danny Harrison, music; Greg Renfrow, pastor; for information, call (601) 732-4055.

Concord Church, Booneville: Revival, Apr. 15-18; 7 p.m. nightly; Mark Cagle, speaker; Robert E. Walker, pastor.

Ebenezer Church, Liberty: Revival, May 6-9; 7 p.m. nightly; Sunday morning service followed by dinner on the grounds; Stacey McCulloch, speaker.

Liberty Church, Jefferson: Revival, Apr. 15-18; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Melvin Mordecia, speaker; Benny Rigby, music; Gary Tanner, pastor.

New Hope Church, Foxworth: Revival, Apr. 22-25; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Millard Moak, speaker; Billy Smith, music.

New Hope Church, Vardaman: 60th anniversary, Apr. 15; regular services, followed by lunch

and special program at 1 p.m.; for information, call (662) 682-7765.

New Pleasantdale Church, Philadelphia: Revival, April 15-18; Sun. 11 a.m. followed by dinner on the grounds, singing at 2 p.m. with Tim Frith and the Gospel Echoes, and 3 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Max Jones, speaker; Tommy Miles, pastor.

Puckett Church, Puckett: Puckett Cemetery Association Homecoming and memorial service, Apr. 22; services, 10:45 a.m., followed by meal; Betty Tadlock, Grant McElveen, and Bob Stribling, speakers; Prentiss Calhoun, Association President. For information, call (601) 825-2797.

Rocky Point Church, Leake Association: Revival, Apr. 22-25, 7 p.m.; Sun., church-wide lunch; Eddie Hamilton, speaker; Marshall Lum, pastor.

Roundaway Church, Indianola: Homecoming, Apr. 22; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by covered dish luncheon; Richard Manning, speaker; Bob Hill, pastor.

Utica Church, Utica: Revival, Apr. 15-18, 7 p.m.; Argile Smith, speaker; Richard Sparks, music; Ben James, pastor.

Visit the Baptist Record online at www.mbcb.org.

Well done...
MATTHEW 25:21

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more for
retirement
today!

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Retirement contribution increases can reap benefits

Will you get a pay raise this year? Remember, that as your income increases — your retirement contribution needs to increase too. Financial planners suggest a retirement contribution should equal at least 10% to 15% of your salary. And the earlier you start making incremental increases to reach this goal, the more compounding will work for you.

John makes \$30,000 a year. He decides to increase his retirement contribution by 1% or \$25 a month. If he does this from age 30 until 65, how much more will he add to his retirement account? What if he delays increasing his contribution 10, 20 or 30 years?

Start at Age	Additional Monthly Contribution	Additional Accumulation at Age 65
30	\$25	\$53,909
40	\$25	\$22,871
50	\$25	\$8,494
60	\$25	\$1,835

This hypothetical illustration assumes continuous monthly investments until age 65 with a single rate of return (8%) compounded over time. It does not predict the future performance of any investment fund.

Why not give yourself a raise?

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SIWYWLBYW C NDU
ZMSB UBZ, PIDS SICMHN
NBWOWY UW GWNCYW,
PIWM UW EYDU, AWVC-
WOW SIDS UW YWKW-
COW SIWX, DMG UW
NIDVV IDOW SIWX.

XDYJ VVVOWM:

SPWMSU-LBZY

Clue: P = W

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: James Two:Five.

1. The **Mississippi College International Center**, under the executive directorship of Jim Brackenridge, is promoting the Silk Road Exploration program this summer. Although the program is provided for Mississippi College students, the International Center has opted to open up this opportunity to anyone from the community who might be interested. The Silk Road Exploration will take place in China from July 15-July 29, 2007, and participants will travel to Beijing, Lanzhou, Dunhuang, and Xi'an. In addition to visiting many famous sites for cultural experiences, participants will receive intensive studies in beginner Mandarin Chinese, classes in Chinese culture, and lessons on the history of the Silk Road. For inquiries and applications, call Carrie Lassetter, programs coordinator of the Mississippi College International Center at (601) 925-7705. The deadline for receiving applications is April 16.

2. Sponsored by Wolfe Gang Music and **William Carey University**, the first lady of the organ, Diane Bish, will perform at an organ dedication concert April 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Smith Auditorium on Carey's Hattiesburg campus. The concert is offered free of charge to the public; however, anyone wishing to donate to the music program can do so during intermission or following the concert at a public reception for Bish. She will sign autographs and CDs which will be sold on site. A private reception for Bish and contributors to the organ fund will follow the public reception in the Lucile Parker Gallery. For more information about the concert or to donate money to the organ fund, call (601) 318-6175.

3. **William Carey University's** Kappa Alpha Lambda, a men's social club focusing on brotherhood and community service, will present a night of bands, speakers and a documentary which will focus on the plight of Ugandan children known as "Invisible Children" April 24 at 7 p.m. on the Intramural Field on the Hattiesburg campus. The event is free; however, donations for "Invisible Children" will be taken at the door. In case of rain, the event will be held in the Student Conference Center. For more information about the Displace Me national event visit www.invisiblechildren.com.



5. Fourth Annual Mississippi College-Tougaloo College Undergraduate Research Symposium

4. Nine **William Carey University** students in the Winters School of Music received awards at the Mississippi Music Teachers Association State Level Collegiate Artist Competition held recently in Jackson. Armin Abdihodzic of Bihac, Bosnia, won the jazz solo division, the junior/senior guitar solo division and the guitar concerto division. As part of the WCU Guitar Duo he and partner Paulina Puljek of Krapina, Croatia, received an honorable mention, and as part of the WCU Guitar Trio and the WCU Jazz Guitar Ensemble with Puljek and Jeremy Kellett of Pascagoula they won both the trio and jazz ensemble divisions. Puljek placed second in junior/senior guitar solo division and the guitar concerto division. Ashley Antie of Carencro, La., received an honorable mention in the freshman/sophomore guitar solo division. Jessica Bullock of Tylertown placed second in the junior/senior piano solo division. Suzanne Adcock of Crestview, Fla., won the junior/senior song division and was second alternate in the aria division. Ashley Henderson of Petal was the first alternate in the

aria division. Marley Lee of Hattiesburg and Jaime Smyth of Hartselle, Ala., received honorable mentions in the freshman/sophomore art song division.

5. The fourth annual **Mississippi College-Tougaloo College Undergraduate Research Symposium** was held March 22-23. The symposium is organized by the Academic Research Committee at MC and the Tougaloo Council of Undergraduate Research. Hosted this year by Mississippi College, the event included participants from Belhaven College, Jackson State University, Millsaps College, Mississippi College, Mississippi State University, Tougaloo College, the University of Mississippi, and the University of Southern Mississippi. Event organizers included MC and Tougaloo faculty representing the academic areas of study for their schools. Chairing the symposium were David H. Magers, for the Mississippi College Academic Research Committee, and Shaila Khan, for the Tougaloo Council of Undergraduate Research.


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